



Department of Public Works

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Residents Can Start Raking Leaves into the Street October 1st

Along with football season, putting away the summer clothes and watching the leaves start to turn, red and gold, another fall tradition continues. City of Milwaukee residents can start raking leaves into the curb lanes starting Saturday, October 1st. Public Works crews will begin collecting the leaves on Monday, October 10th. Sanitation staff collects an average of 15,000 tons of leaves each year between mid-October and the first week of December. Last year, 14,200 tons of leaves were collected.

The Department of Public Works' fall mailer will begin arriving in Milwaukee residents' homes the week of October 3rd. This year's fall mailer will inform residents about exciting changes to the residential recycling program, winter garbage collection procedures, and Self-Help Center services. Also, included in the mailer are tips for fall leaf collection. Residents are urged to do the following:

- Keep leaves away from storm drains in the street
- Keep piles away from sewer grates
- Place garden debris on top of leaf piles
- Do not put leaves in plastic bags
- Do not put brush in the street
- Do not put leaves in your garbage carts
- Do not rake leaves into curb lanes after November 15th

Leaves and brush are collected separately from garbage and composted, which conserve natural resources while saving the City money. Residents are also encouraged to mulch leaves and leave grass clippings on the lawn. This saves time, money and adds nutrients to the soil.